

ST. GEORGE

A big bird count

From historic bald eagle sightings to wild turkey talk, it's becoming increasingly clear that S.I. is for the birds.

Next up: Celebrate the 40th anniversary of Big Bird Day from midnight tonight to midnight tomorrow night, when teams of two to four birders can travel anywhere on S.I. in pursuit of accumulating the largest "day list" (number of species) possible in a 24-hour period.

Get down for the count at 8 p.m. tonight in the Staten Island Museum, 75 Stuyvesant Place, St. George; StatenIslandMuseum.org.

Teams are welcome to spend as much or as little time in the field as they wish. Newbies are encouraged to participate, "so gather up some friends, grab field guides and binoculars and hit the trails!"

All efforts will be tallied to create the borough-wide total. If you have questions or concerns, contact Will Lenihan at 718-483-7110.

Warning: If you are stalking South Shore parks, don't you dare disrupt the bald eagle nesting site. Report any eagle harassment to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Wildlife Diversity Unit at 518-402-8920.

